

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 063835

67

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 /069 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:JGDAY/BR

APPROVED BY EUR/SE:WLEAGLETON

----- 038745

O R 162315Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 063835

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, GR, TU, US

SUBJECT: GREEK DEMARCHE ON AEGEAN

1. ON INSTRUCTIONS, GREEK AMBASSADOR ALEXANDRAKIS CALLED MARCH 16 ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN TO CONVEY HIS GOVERNMENT'S GROWING CONCERN ABOUT TURKISH INTENTIONS IN THE AEGEAN AND TO LEAVE TWO AIDE-MEMOIRE ON CONTINENTAL SHELF AND AIR SPACE DISPUTES. TEXT OF AIDE-MEMOIRE WILL BE SENT BY SEPARATE MESSAGES.

2. ALEXANDRAKIS GAVE STANDARD GREEK INTERPRETATION OF AEGEAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE BY ASSERTING THAT PROBLEM HAD BEEN CREATED BY TURKISH "UNILATERAL EXPANSIONIST ACTION" AND THAT TURKS HAVE BEEN TRYING OVER PAST EIGHT MONTHS TO RENEG ON DEMIREL'S EARLIER ACCEPTANCE OF GREEK PROPOSAL TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 063835

SUBMIT DISPUTE TO INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE. TURKS

ARE NOW TRYING, ALEXANDRAKIS SAID, "TO GIVE EXPLOSIVE CHARACTER" TO AEGEAN SITUATION, AND HE CITED AS EVIDENCE RECENT STATEMENT BY TURKISH MINISTER OF ENERGY, WHO REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCED TURKEY WOULD SEND A SEISMIC SHIP IN DISPUTED AREA "TO ESTABLISH OUR SOVEREIGN RIGHTS." ALEXANDRAKIS THEN SPECIFICALLY ASKED THAT THE SECRETARY RAISE THE AEGEAN ISSUE WITH CAGLAYANGIL DURING HIS MARCH 25-26 VISIT AND INFORM CAGLAYANGIL U.S. CANNOT TOLERATE

"PROVOCATIVE" ACTIONS BY TURKEY IN THE AEGEAN, PARTICULARLY SINCE PEACEFUL MEANS ARE AVAILABLE FOR RESOLVING THE DISPUTE ALEXANDRAKIS NOTED THAT THE SECRETARY HAD PUBLICLY EXPRESSED IN MAY 1975 U.S. OPPOSITION TO ANY "DISTURBANCE" IN THE AEGEAN AND THAT HE HAD DECLARED LAST WEEK IN BOSTON THAT "IF ADVENTURISM IS ALLOWED TO SUCCEED IN LOCAL CRISES -- AN OMINOUS PRECEDENT OF WIDER CONSEQUENCES IS SET." ALEXANDRAKIS STRESSED THAT GOG SHARES THESE VIEWS OF THE SECRETARY.

3. IN RESPONSE, HARTMAN SAID THAT WE HAVE URGED BOTH COUNTRIES IN PAST TO PURSUE THEIR DIFFERENCES IN THE AEGEAN THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS, AND WE AGREE IT IS NOT HELPFUL FOR EITHER SIDE TO MAKE PROVOCATIVE STATEMENTS OR MOVES. HARTMAN ASKED IF GOG WOULD BE WILLING TO GIVE US AN AIDE-MEMOIRE PROVIDING DETAILS ON LAST GREEK-TURKISH MEETING IN BERN AND IF GREEK FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD CONSIDERED USING OCCASION OF NEXT LOS CONFERENCE TO TRY TO MAKE PROGRESS ON RESOLVING AEGEAN ISSUES. ALEXANDRAKIS SAW NO PROBLEM IN PRESENTING TO US AN AIDE-MEMOIRE ON BERN, BUT HE HAD NO INFORMATION WHETHER GREEK AND TURKISH EXPERTS WOULD DISCUSS BILATERAL PROBLEMS DURING LOS CONFERENCE. HE PERSONALLY DOUBTED, HOWEVER, THAT LOS WOULD BE A PRODUCTIVE FORUM FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS AS TURKS HAVE MADE CLEAR THEIR OPPOSITION TO EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL WATERS TO 12 MILES IN AEGEAN AND THEY HAVE SOUGHT TO TREAT THE AEGEAN AS A POLITICAL, NOT LEGAL, PROBLEM. IN CONCLUSION, HARTMAN INDICATED THAT WE WOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE GREEK AIDE-MEMOIRE AND THAT HE WOULD CONVEY TO THE SECRETARY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON THESE ISSUES.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 063835

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY ANKARA HAS ON WHEN TURKISH VESSEL WILL BE READY TO PERFORM SEISMIC WORK.

KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, CONTINENTAL SHELF, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AIDE MEMOIRE, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS, AEGEAN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE063835
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JGDAY/BR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760099-0721
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760354/aaaabvwr.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GREEK DEMARCHE ON AEGEAN
TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, US
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006